

REMARKS

Claims 7, 8, and 14-26 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1-6 and 9-13 have been canceled. Claims 16-26 are allowed. Applicant gratefully acknowledges that claims 7, 8, 14, and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and have accordingly rewritten these claims. Therefore, Applicant understands that all remaining claims are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 7, 8, and 14-26, all the claims in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections and pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner may contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date: 11/25/03

Respectfully Submitted,



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